

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application, as amended, is respectfully requested. Claims 1 and 3 have been amended. Claims 6, 7, and 10 have been cancelled. Therefore, claims 1-5 and 8-9 remain pending in this application.

The Examiner notes that U.S. Patent No. 5,108,037 cited in an Information Disclosure Statement submitted by Applicants is not relevant to the claimed invention and, therefore, has not been considered. The correct reference is U.S. Patent No. 5,018,037 and Applicants will submit a supplemental Information Disclosure Statement identifying the correct reference for consideration by the Examiner. The fifth paragraph of the Specification has also been amended to identify the correct reference. Applicants respectfully submit no new matter was added.

The drawings are objected to for not showing every feature of the claimed invention. Specifically, claims 6 and 7 recite that the first and second conductive layer comprise “a longitudinal bias layer and a lead layer” and claim 10 recites “a magnetically soft film layer pinned by antiferromagnetic films,” features that Examiner contends are not shown in the drawings. Claims 6, 7, and 10 have been cancelled. Applicants respectfully submit that the objection to the drawings is no longer applicable and requests the withdrawal of this objection.

Claims 1-5 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,761,010 to Mimura (“Mimura”). To the extent the rejection may be applied to the claims as amended, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

The magnetic recording head of claim 1 includes an insulating layer arranged between a magnetoresistive layer and a soft-adjacent magnetic transverse bias layer (SAL). Independent claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the first and second conductive layers include an **extending portion directly contacting a top surface of the magnetoresistive layer**. Support for this amendment is found on at least page 5 and 6, paragraph 24 of the specification.

Applicants respectfully submit that Mimura fails to teach or suggest direct contact between the conductive layers and the top surface of the magnetoresistive layer. In contrast, Mimura discloses an anti-ferromagnetic layer and a low-resistance metal layer formed between the conductive layer and the top surface of the magnetoresistive layer. (See, e.g., Figures 3A-3E.)

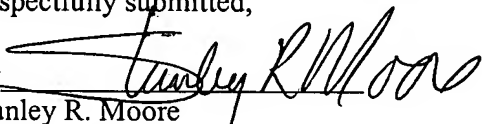
Based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 1, and those claims dependent therefrom, distinguish over Mimura. Therefore, withdrawal of the 102(e) rejection of claims 1-5 and 9 is respectfully requested.

Claims 6-8 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mimura. Claims 6, 7, and 10 have been cancelled. Claims 8-9 depend from amended claim 1 and therefore distinguish over Mimura for the same reasons as stated above with respect to amended claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the 103(a) rejection.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

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Respectfully submitted,

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